



The International Fancy Guppy Association



Dedicated to Promoting The Fancy Guppy Hobby

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Greens

By Jim Alderson

Green delta guppies are some of the most striking guppies available today. The green guppy is a relatively a newcomer to the guppy world, showing up in guppy shows in the sixties. Early breeders of greens included Hutter, Parrish, an, Regent. Guppy lines are frequently referred to by the breeders last name only, like Parrish Greens.

In with non-matching dorsals. These fish were large with green tails and white dorsal fins. The genetic breakthrough came when Hutter produced greens with matching dorsals. Mike Regent developed and showed these greens extensively. Today matching dorsals greens are the only fish that will place on the show bench. Some people still refer to matching dorsal greens as "Hutter Greens" and greens with non-matching white dorsals as "Parrish Greens". Most of the greens in this country today originate from these two lines.

The greens that I breed show a mixture of characteristics of the two lines. My larger greens tend toward the Parrish line. These Fish are very hardy, large, and sometimes show white highlights n the dorsal fin. Due to their size and vigor, they are an indispensable part of my green breeding program. My "Hutter Greens" are smaller, less vigorous, more brilliantly colored, and the dorsal fin matches the caudal in color. The females from this line are particularly small and weak.

If you examine the characteristics of these two lines, you will see that they compliment each other well. I do not keep the lines separate and pure. I set up one set of breeders for color and another set for size and vigor. I never use a Hutter-like male crossed into a Parrish-like female, the offspring will pretty much look like the male, but larger. My goal is to get the outstanding color or the smaller fish and the size of the Parrish line.

The main difficulty that I encounter is keeping the white out of the dorsal fin. Both lines are improving in size and vigor due to the constant linecrossing between the lines. I never breed brother to sister. I pick the most robust females with the thickest caudal peduncles. Greens tend to get weak in the peduncle if you do not select the females with the thickest bodies.

I do not think it is that important to know the lineage of your fish for ten generations. The lines you use should be compatible. I have crossed two green lines before and the offspring were bi-colors or blues. You should breed for characteristics. That is, breed the smaller very brilliantly colored male to the sister of large vigorous males. This breeding principle can be used in other lines as well.

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Filtration

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Thank you Bryan Chin, Gene Baudier, Jay Crane, Luke Roebuck and Stan Shubel for their photo donations.

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